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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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3 1. (Original). A hull for a high speed boat having generally a V-
4 shape, comprising at least one pair of strakes longitudinally running along
5 the entire length of said hull from a common point at the aft end of said
6 hull and said strakes of each pair separating from each other as they extend
7 towards the fore portion of the hull, said strakes having a cross-section that
8 includes a fin member with a distal end that extends downwardly from
9 said hull, said fin member having a substantially triangular shape with an
10 outer side that is longer than an inner side to permit said distal end to
11 extend substantially vertically inside a body of water and said cross-section
12 further includes a flat horizontal section adjacent to said inner side so that
13 running and idle stability can be achieved.

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15 2. (Currently amended). The hull set forth in claim 1 wherein said
16 hull includes at least one step with a drop off wall and having a projected
17 V-shape pointing to the ~~front~~ back of said boat and having two distal ends
18 that allow air in as the boat moves thereby forming an air cushion tending
19 to lift said hull.

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21 3. (Original). The hull set forth in claim 2 wherein said at least
22 one step includes step includes a longitudinal channel running adjacent to
23 said drop off wall and having a predetermined width so that a portion of
24 the air through said distal ends is trapped therein.

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1 4. (Original). The hull set forth in claim 3 further including a
2 peripheral chine having a substantially triangular cross-section that
3 extends vertically and downwardly inside a body of water over which said
4 boat floats.

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6 5. (Currently amended). A hull for a high speed boat having at
7 least one step with a drop off wall and having a projected V-shape pointing
8 to the ~~front~~ back of said boat and having two forward extending distal ends
9 that allow air in as the boat moves thereby forming an air cushion tending
10 to lift said hull, said at least one step includes a longitudinal channel
11 running adjacent to said drop off wall and having a predetermined width
12 so that a portion of the air through said distal ends is trapped therein.

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15 6. (Cancelled).

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17 7. (Original). The hull set forth in claim 6 further including a
18 peripheral chin having a cross-section with a substantially triangular shape
19 that extends vertically and downwardly inside a body of water over which
20 said boat floats.

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